



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 28 August 2006

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

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## Daily Highlights

- The Associated Press reports a Comair commuter jet crashed in Kentucky during take off early Sunday, August 27, and burst into flames, killing 49 people and leaving the lone survivor in critical condition. (See item [11](#))
- The Associated Press reports U.S. and Argentine authorities are investigating how a stick of dynamite in a college student's checked luggage ended up on a Houston-bound flight; the incident raises questions about security in overseas airports. (See item [12](#))
- Homeland security advisers from West Virginia and other states likely to receive potentially seven million refugees from a disaster in the Washington, DC-area have formally agreed to work together on regional evacuation plans. (See item [29](#))
- The American Society of Civil Engineers' External Review Panel has issued a report outlining a set of essential recommendations for overcoming the deficiencies in Gulf region's hurricane protection system and instituting real change in its governance, management, and engineering. (See item [33](#))

## **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump***

**Production Industries:** [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

**Service Industries:** [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

**Sustenance and Health:** [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

**Federal and State:** [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

**IT and Cyber:** [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

**Other:** [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS Daily Report Contact Information](#)

## **Energy Sector**

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) –

1. *August 25, Daily Item (MA)* — **Officials call for tighter LNG security.** Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney has ordered a security review of the state's liquefied natural gas (LNG) storage facilities. The review, which will be conducted by a joint inspection team from the Department of Telecommunications and Energy and members of the State Police's Critical Infrastructure Assessment Unit, is precautionary and will take about 30 days, according to a news release from the governor's office. Authorities wouldn't disclose for security reasons how many LNG facilities are in the state. Romney's review will include an inspection of the facilities' physical plant, security plans and systems, as well as training records. State and local police are trying to identify two intruders who cut a fence and entered an LNG facility in Lynn last week, with the help of videotape recorded by a security camera at the facility.  
Source: [http://www.thedailyitemoflynn.com/news/view.bg?articleid=129\\_60](http://www.thedailyitemoflynn.com/news/view.bg?articleid=129_60)
2. *August 25, United Press International* — **Analysis: Nuclear Regulatory Commission hires expecting nuke boom.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has been on a hiring spree in anticipation of applications for new nuclear reactors, reactor permit renewals, and the nuclear waste repository in Yucca Mountain. "For at least the past year we've been looking to seriously ramp up the agency's research personnel," said NRC spokesperson Scott Burnell. That includes more than 300 hires over the past year, a trend expected to continue for the next few years. Burnell said there are 13 prospective applicants totaling "19 possible applications, based on companies that have come to us so far and laid out specific plans," which he estimates to be about 27 new reactors. He expects the first new reactor application by late next year. Ron Hagen of the Energy Information Administration, says he thinks there may be even more potential new nuclear sites than the NRC is letting on, and talk from within the industry points to increased chances at the first approval of nuclear power plant since 1978. "What you're seeing is a gradual warming up to the idea," said Hagen.  
Source: [http://www.upi.com/Energy/view.php?StoryID=20060825-122244-9\\_549r](http://www.upi.com/Energy/view.php?StoryID=20060825-122244-9_549r)
3. *August 24, Times Union (NY)* — **Panel faults National Grid's outage protocol.** Better communication and training for employees could have eased problems for hundreds of thousands of National Grid customers who lost power after a massive windstorm swept New York in February, according to the state Public Service Commission (PSC). The panel heard recommendations Wednesday, August 24, that called on the utility to make changes, including better scheduling of workers to deal with storms and fixing an outage-management information system that was overwhelmed with calls. The February 17 storm left 120,000 people without power. National Grid officials said the company already has implemented some of the changes and is working to get others in place by an October deadline. Public officials criticized National Grid after the windstorm, saying the utility was difficult to reach and often gave out conflicting information. The PSC also wants National Grid to be more aggressive in seeking help from neighboring utilities.  
Source: <http://timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=511044&category=BUSINESS&BCCode=HOME&newsdate=8/24/2006>
4. *August 24, Poughkeepsie Journal (NY)* — **Plan: New York needs better power transmission, generation.** A reliability plan for New York state's power grid came out Wednesday, August 23, cautioning "regulated solutions" may be needed if the private market doesn't step up and

improve transmission and generation. Private plans in the works appear sufficient — and necessary — to meet power needs through 2015, the period encompassed by the study, said the New York Independent System Operator. The southeastern part of the state faces potential difficulty, the report said. The plan recommends deferring retirement of a New York City plant, deploying various transmission projects to bring power south, and developing more power plants in the metropolitan area.

Source: <http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060824/BUSINESS/608240318>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

Nothing to report.

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

5. *August 25, Aviation Now* — **Navy and industry must overcome many challenges in order to deliver USVs.** The Navy this week will test autonomous latching and hoisting of unmanned surface vehicles (USVs) for recovery aboard the Sea Fighter test bed in a vital experiment of necessary, albeit unsettled, concepts and technology for the transforming service. Navy and Coast Guard officials briefing industry representatives Thursday, August 24, said the at-sea tests aboard Sea Fighter also will try out the complete recovery cycle using Sea Fighter's stern ramp. The Sea Fighter tends to "fishtail" in some conditions, making it difficult for autonomous or even remotely operated USVs to make last-minute course corrections to drive up the host ship's ramp. Such lessons learned are just the latest in a long list of challenges the Navy and its industry partners must overcome to deliver on the promise of USVs, an integral part of the Littoral Combat Ship vision. The USV launch-and-recovery issue is so important that Steve Cohen, technical director for the Coast Guard's Deepwater recapitalization program, thinks the federal government should focus industry on it. "What we're doing right now is not good enough. We're kind of mired in the past," said Cohen. "If you can't get them on and off a boat, the system's not going to work."

Source: [http://www.aviationnow.com/avnow/news/channel\\_aerospacedaily\\_story.jsp?id=news/LCS08256.xml](http://www.aviationnow.com/avnow/news/channel_aerospacedaily_story.jsp?id=news/LCS08256.xml)

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

6. *August 25, Finextra (UK)* — **U.S. customers trust banks to guard their data, says ABA.** Despite a number of high profile security breaches and growing fears of identity theft, consumers continue to trust banks to guard their information more than other institutions, according to a new survey by the American Bankers Association (ABA). The majority of the 1,000 consumers polled — 66 percent — identified banks as the most trustworthy with their personal information, says the ABA. Government agencies received 11 percent of the vote, and

universities were third with ten percent. Only three per cent of consumers trusted retailers with their personal data, while two percent thought data brokers were trustworthy. Ed Yingling of ABA says that the vote of confidence from consumers makes sense as unlike other industries banks have a strict regulatory system in place to prevent data breaches and notify customers if one occurs that could put their identity at risk. Yingling adds: "When you look at the number of data breaches that have occurred in 2006, you'll see a very small percentage happened at financial institutions."

Source: <http://www.finextra.com/fullstory.asp?id=15766>

7. *August 25, BBC* — **Spammers manipulate stock markets.** Spam messages that tout stocks and shares can have real effects on the markets, a study suggests. E-mails typically promote penny shares in the hope of convincing people to buy into a company to raise its price. People who respond to the "pump and dump" scam can lose eight percent of their investment in two days. Conversely, the spammers who buy low-priced stock before sending the e-mails, typically see a return of between 4.9 percent and 6 percent when they sell. The study recently published on the Social Science Research Network say their conclusions prove the hypothesis that spammers "buy low and spam high". The researchers say that approximately 730 million spam e-mails are sent every week, 15 percent of which tout stocks. Other estimates of spam volumes are far higher. The study, by Professor Laura Frieder of Purdue University and Professor Jonathan Zittrain from Oxford University's Internet Institute, analyzed more than 75,000 unsolicited e-mails.

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/5284618.stm>

8. *August 24, Wichita Eagle (KS)* — **Rose Hill Bank alerts its customers to scam.** Both customers and non-customers of Rose Hill Bank in Wichita, KS, received an e-mail Wednesday, August 23, warning them that their Rose Hill Bank online password had expired and needed to be updated. The message included a link to a Website where customers could change their password and other personal information. Both the e-mail and the Website were fraudulent. The site was shut down.

Source: <http://www.kansas.com/mld/kansas/business/15347019.htm>

9. *August 24, Canadian Broadcasting Company* — **Investors warned of online account hijacking.** A Canadian investment industry group is warning investors with online accounts to beware that unauthorized people have been cleaning out accounts and using the money to apparently manipulate the prices of micro-cap stocks. The Investment Dealers Association's (IDA) enforcement department said Thursday, August 24, it has received information from several sources that people have gained access to clients' online trading accounts. The IDA said the method used to get access to the accounts is not known, but theorized it could have been through a computer virus, a "phishing" e-mail scam, or through a pirate Website designed to resemble an investment firm's website. In the cases reported to the IDA, client portfolios were sold out. "The credit was then used to place buy orders for specific securities listed on the OTC Bulletin Board or NASDAQ pink sheets," the group said.

Source: <http://ca.news.yahoo.com/s/24082006/3/business-investors-warned-online-account-hijacking.html>

10. *August 24, IDG News Service* — **U.S. Air Force special agent says 75 percent of DDoS victims do not report the attacks.** Companies that work with law enforcement agencies on

cybercrime can get valuable information, including lists of hostile IP (Internet Protocol) addresses and information on new types of attacks, said U.S. Air Force cybercrime investigator Wendi Whitmore at the 2006 InfraGard National Conference. The shared information between law enforcement and private businesses can help both groups develop better defenses, she said. About three-quarters of the victims of DDOS (distributed denial-of-service) extortion scams don't report the crimes to law enforcement agencies. In extortion scams, criminals use networks of compromised computers called botnets to flood a company's network with traffic, then ask the company for money to make the DDOS attack stop. If the company refuses to pay, the attacker floods the company's network with more traffic, often from thousands of zombie computers, then demands more money, she said. Financial companies such as banks and gambling Websites are favorite targets for these botnet extortion scams. Botnets of compromised computers are responsible for sending many viruses and worms and phishing scam e-mails, Whitmore said. In addition to DDOS attacks, compromised computers can send out the owner's personal information.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/08/24/HNreportcybercrime\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/08/24/HNreportcybercrime_1.html)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

11. *August 27, Associated Press* — **Plane crashes in Kentucky, killing 49; runway questions raised.** A commuter jet crashed during take off early Sunday, August 27, and burst into flames, killing 49 people and leaving the lone survivor in critical condition. Investigators were trying to determine if the plane was on the wrong runway and ran out of pavement. Comair Flight 5191, a CRJ-200 regional jet, crashed at 6:07 a.m. CDT in a field less than mile from the runway, said Kathleen Bergen, a spokesperson for the Federal Aviation Administration. It was the country's worst domestic airplane accident in nearly six years. The cause of the crash wasn't immediately clear, but the location of the wreckage raised questions about the runways at Blue Grass Airport. The burning plane was just off the end of the airport's 3,500-foot-long general aviation runway, an unlit strip built at a V shape to the longer main runway. According to the Federal Aviation Administration, it would have been too short for the CRJ-200 jet. The plane was in flames but largely intact when rescuers reached it, and authorities said they were able to get one crewmember out alive, but the fire was devastating. Both flight recorders, which should help investigators determine what went wrong, were sent to Washington, DC, for analysis.
- Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2006-08-27-kentucky-crash\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2006-08-27-kentucky-crash_x.htm)

12. *August 26, Associated Press* — **Officials probe Houston-bound flight's dynamite incident.** U.S. and Argentine authorities are investigating how a stick of dynamite in a college student's checked luggage ended up on a Houston-bound flight, one of several security incidents that disrupted U.S. flights in a day. There was no indication terrorism was involved in any of the incidents, which caused two flights to be diverted, others to be delayed and passengers to be questioned. The dynamite was discovered during a baggage search in an inspection station at Bush Intercontinental Airport shortly after Continental Airlines Flight 52 from Argentina landed early Friday, August 25. Argentina's chief of airport security police, Marcelo Sain, said in a televised interview Friday that authorities there were in contact with U.S. officials as they opened their own probe into how the explosive got into the baggage. Howard McFarland Fish, a 21-year-old student at Lafayette College in Easton, PA, was charged with carrying an



explosive aboard an aircraft and was in the custody of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The incident could have been disastrous and raises questions about security in overseas airports, said Bill Waldock, aviation safety professor at Embry–Riddle Aeronautical University in Arizona, adding that dynamite can be unstable if it's old.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2006-08-26-dynamite-traces\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2006-08-26-dynamite-traces_x.htm)

13. *August 25, Associated Press* — **New York flight evacuated after bomb threat.** An Aer Lingus flight from New York was evacuated Friday morning, August 25, following a threat against the aircraft, airport authorities said. The 239 passengers aboard the plane, Aer Lingus flight 112, were evacuated during a scheduled stop at Shannon airport in western Ireland, said airport spokesperson Eugene Pratt. The threat "came to a police station in Dublin, and referred to some explosives aboard that specific flight," Pratt said. No trace of explosives was found in the initial search, and all baggage was cleared for an onward flight to Dublin, said Gillian Culhane, an Aer Lingus spokesperson in Dublin. Pratt said security officials decided to remove all of the baggage from the flight to be screened again.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/europe/08/25/ireland.plane.ap/index.html>

14. *August 25, Associated Press* — **American Airlines and US Airways jets diverted.** An American Airlines flight from England to Chicago was forced to land in Bangor, ME, Friday, August 25, for security reasons, and a U.S. Airways jet was diverted to Oklahoma City after a federal air marshal subdued a passenger who was involved in an incident with a flight attendant, officials said. At Oklahoma City's Will Rogers World Airport, law enforcement officers were questioning the passenger involved in the incident that led to the diversion of the US Airways flight, airline spokesperson Morgan Durrant said. Federal Aviation Administration spokesperson Arlene Murray said American Airlines Flight 55 out of Manchester, England, was diverted to Bangor for security reasons but would not elaborate. The Boeing 767 carrying 167 passengers and 12 crewmembers was diverted at the request of the Transportation Security Administration, airline spokesperson John Hotard said.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2006-08-25-jets-diverted\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2006-08-25-jets-diverted_x.htm)

15. *August 25, Associated Press* — **O'Hare flight caps in place through 2008.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on Thursday, August 24, extended by two years a cap on the number of flights into O'Hare International Airport in an effort to curtail delays at one of the world's busiest airports. Domestic airlines will continue to be limited to a combined 88 arrivals per hour between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. CDT until October 31, 2008 — at which point the FAA expects Chicago to have completed the first runway associated with O'Hare's planned \$15 billion expansion. O'Hare's last-place ranking in on-time performance among the busiest 31 U.S. airports in 2004 first prompted the FAA to impose the cap. The agency will only lift the requirement if its semiannual review of O'Hare operations shows delays will not increase

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/060825/o\\_hare\\_flight\\_caps.html?v=2](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/060825/o_hare_flight_caps.html?v=2)

16. *August 25, Pacific Business News* — **Aloha connects Maui with Kona, Kauai.** Aloha Airlines launches in one week some new flights that move away from the carrier's hub-and-spoke system in which all flights lead to Honolulu. It now flies Kahului–Lihue and Kahului–Kona. It is an important new development in the interisland airline battle, as Aloha, until now going head to head with Hawaiian Airlines and the new Mesa Air Group service go!, now competes head to head with its own former subsidiary Island Air. Hawaii airline historian and analyst

Peter Forman says Aloha sees ticket prices deteriorating on its current routes due to go!'s arrival. "Aloha probably figures there's more money to be made by moving resources to thinner routes that have been the domain of Island Air for the past few years," Forman said.

Source: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bizj/060825/1337090.html?v=1>

**17. *August 25, USA TODAY* — Judge blocks Northwest flight attendants from going on strike.**

A federal district judge on Friday, August 25, put a hold on Northwest Airlines flight attendants' plan to launch a series of mini-strikes against the bankrupt carrier. U.S. District Judge Victor Marrero, of New York City, said he needs more time to examine the legal issues surrounding the attendants' unprecedented plans to strike without having gone through the lengthy bargaining steps set out by the Railway Labor Act. The judge said attorneys for Northwest, which has been operating in Chapter 11 bankruptcy since last September, made a "persuasive case" that the carrier and the traveling public could suffer great harm from a strike that may not be legal. He gave no timetable for issuing his decision. Northwest, the USA's No. 5 carrier, is asking Marrero to overturn a ruling last week by U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Allan Gropper that would have allowed the attendants to strike. Gropper had said that he lacked the legal authority to intervene in the dispute. The attendants are upset with Northwest's insistence on obtaining concessions from the attendants worth \$195 million a year as part of its restructuring plan.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2006-08-25-northwest-strike-blocked\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2006-08-25-northwest-strike-blocked_x.htm)

**18. *August 25, Washington Post* — Dress code relaxed for air marshals.** Dana A. Brown, director of the Federal Air Marshal Service, said in a memo to air marshals on Thursday, August 24, that the dress code revisions will take effect September 1 and replace a policy that some air marshals criticized for being so strict that they stood out on some flights. Brown told air marshals in the memo that the policy was being amended to "allow you to dress at your discretion." He added that the new policy was designed to let air marshals blend in while concealing their weapons. The previous dress code generally required air marshals to wear collared shirts, sport coats, and dress shoes. The service loosened some of the restrictions a year ago, officials said. Transportation Security Administration officials said they were reviewing other policies that have irked some air marshals, including having them board flights before other passengers, making them easier to spot.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/08/24/AR2006082401264.html>

**19. *August 24, USA TODAY* — TSA considers easing ban on liquids.** The government is studying whether it can allow airline passengers to carry small amounts of now-banned liquids onto airplanes, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) said Thursday, August 24. TSA spokesperson Ellen Howe said there is no timetable for easing a ban on liquids and gels that took effect August 10 after authorities foiled an alleged plan to attack U.S.-bound planes with liquid bombs. She said investigators are studying all liquid explosives to determine whether passengers could be allowed to carry on items such as water and toothpaste while maintaining security. Kip Hawley, the head of TSA, said the agency wants to find a way to meet the needs of travelers while keeping them safe from the threat of explosives. "We understand the business traveler is very anxious to be able to carry on enough [items] for an overnight trip," Hawley said. Neal Langerman, a chemist with the American Chemistry Council, said it is "good risk

management" and "pretty straightforward" for investigators to study the 25 or so liquid explosives and determine how much would be needed to crash or endanger an airplane. Langerman said an analysis would take several weeks and probably result in air travelers being allowed to carry small amounts of liquids and gels.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-08-24-liquids-ban\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-08-24-liquids-ban_x.htm)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

20. *August 25, Associated Press* — **Strange smell evacuates Maryland post office.** A post office has been evacuated in Takoma Park, MD, after workers reported a strange odor. Montgomery County Fire and Rescue spokesperson Pete Piringer says the postal workers called authorities about 12:45 p.m. EDT complaining about the smell. He says six workers are being treated for irritated eyes and difficulty breathing, but none of their conditions is considered serious.

Source: [http://www.wusatv9.com/news/news\\_article.aspx?storyid=51636](http://www.wusatv9.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=51636)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Agriculture Sector**

21. *August 26, Reading Eagle (PA)* — **State starts farm identification program.** Pennsylvania has begun a premises identification program to help animal health officials track and contain animal disease outbreaks. Premises identification numbers work similar to mailing addresses. The program identifies locations only and is not linked to any individual or specific animal. As farms change ownership, the farm's ID number will remain the same. Currently, premises with animals participating in various disease certification programs may have to use different numbers for each program. The new program will replace those numbers, streamlining the state's information system.

Source: <http://www.readingeagle.com/re/news/1560087.asp>

22. *August 25, Agence France-Presse* — **Bluetongue virus spreads in Belgium.** An outbreak of bluetongue virus in sheep and cows in Belgium spread further after multiplying throughout the week. By Friday, August 25, the country had noted 37 cases of the insect-born viral infection. The count rose steadily in the week from 28 on Thursday and 17 on Wednesday. The cases affected sheep and cows in the east of the country, where measures were put in place banning the movement of ruminant animals around infected farms in the regions of Liege and Limburg. Bluetongue information: <http://www.fao.org/AG/AGAINFO/subjects/en/health/diseases-cards/bluetongue.html>

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060825/hl\\_afp/belgiumfarmhealth\\_060825185305;\\_ylt=AsGmGeaViO4fmeo.QcBj8yeJOrgF;\\_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhda--](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060825/hl_afp/belgiumfarmhealth_060825185305;_ylt=AsGmGeaViO4fmeo.QcBj8yeJOrgF;_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhda--)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Food Sector**



23. *August 25, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service* — **Tomato imports allowed from certain Central American countries.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Friday, August 25, announced that it is amending its regulations to allow, under certain conditions, the importation of pink and red tomatoes from Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama into the U.S. To be eligible for importation, the tomatoes must be grown and packed in APHIS-approved production sites in areas free of the Mediterranean fruit fly (Medfly). A preharvest inspection of the production site must be conducted by the national plant protection organization (NPPO) of the exporting country and the site must be found free of pea leafminer, a destructive pest of vegetables and flowers; tomato fruit borer, a serious tomato plant pest; and potato spindle tuber viroid, a disease that affects tomato and potato crops. The tomatoes must also be packed in insect-proof containers or covered with insect-proof mesh or plastic tarpaulin during transit to the U.S. In addition, each shipment of tomatoes must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the exporting country's NPPO with an additional declaration stating that the tomatoes were grown in a Medfly-free area and the shipment was inspected and found free of all pests listed in the requirements.

Source: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2006/08/tomatoim.shtml>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Water Sector**

24. *August 24, Beverage Daily* — **More bottled water to be recalled.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is expected to announce the recall of several bottled water drinks, thought to contain cancer-causing bromate above the legal limit in the U.S. The recall is expected to involve a range of private label bottled waters taken from the Springbrook Springs source in Concord, NY. Long-term exposure to bromate may increase consumers' risk of cancer. The news comes only a couple of weeks after retailer Wegmans recalled its Food You Feel Good About Spring Water because of bromate. Company tests confirmed some drinks contained bromate up to two-and-a-half times the level considered safe by the FDA. Wegmans, which also uses the Springbrook Springs source, was alerted to the problem with its water by an independent lab, which claimed it found bromate levels in the drink at 27 and 28 parts per billion (ppb). The FDA maximum is 10ppb. That same lab said it found a similar problem with some other bottled waters using the same source.

Source: <http://www.beveragedaily.com/news/ng.asp?n=70089-bromate-bottled-water-fda>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Public Health Sector**

25. *August 26, Agence France-Presse* — **H5N1 virus found in Vietnamese ducks.** Vietnam has said the deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu had been detected in a flock of ducks in the southern Mekong Delta, raising fears of a resurgence of the virus. The H5N1 strain was found in unvaccinated ducks that showed no symptoms, in Thanh Phu district of Ben Tre province, said the animal health department. Vietnam — the country worst hit by H5N1 after Indonesia, with

42 human deaths since late 2003 — has reported no new human cases this year. However, the H5N1 virus remains widespread and could trigger more animal and human outbreaks, experts warn.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060826/hl\\_afp/healthfluvietnam\\_060826072212;\\_ylt=AuJSaPuIO7yo4VpOOy9T.MqJOrgF;\\_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhdA--](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060826/hl_afp/healthfluvietnam_060826072212;_ylt=AuJSaPuIO7yo4VpOOy9T.MqJOrgF;_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhdA--)

26. *August 25, Associated Press* — **Plague cases reported in U.S. .** Thirteen cases of plague including two deaths have been reported in the western U.S. this year, the highest number of cases in 12 years, health officials said Friday, August 25. Seven cases were reported in New Mexico, three in Colorado, two in California and one in Texas. Two New Mexicans died — a 54-year-old woman who grew ill in May and a 43-year-old woman who became sick in July. Fourteen cases were reported in 1994.

Plague information: [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/submenus/sub\\_plague.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/submenus/sub_plague.htm)

Source: <http://www.breitbart.com/news/2006/08/25/D8JNRIE05.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Government Sector**

Nothing to report.

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Emergency Services Sector**

27. *August 25, Associated Press* — **Indiana fire chiefs: Toll Road barriers will slow rescues.**

Fire officials are questioning the safety of barriers recently placed along the Indiana Toll Road's emergency turnarounds by the highway's new private operator, warning that they could hamper their ability to reach crash victims. Maintenance crews for the toll road's private operator, ITR Concession Co., recently placed barriers of sand-filled barrels along the 157-mile roadway's emergency turnarounds. Matt Pierce, a spokesperson for ITR Concession, said the barrels were placed along the turnarounds — located on the medians between eastbound and westbound lanes — to prevent unauthorized vehicles from using them and causing accidents. But fire chiefs fear the barrels could threaten emergency responders' ability to reach crash victims, because the responders will lose precious minutes moving the barrels out of the way.

Source: <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060825/LOCAL/608250508>

28. *August 24, Federal Computer Week* — **Former New York City official urges wider use of GIS.** Geographic information systems (GIS) are vital to critical infrastructure protection and homeland security, former New York City official Alan Leidner told public safety officials at the InfraGard 2006 National Conference last week in Washington, DC. To help get state and local governments started using GIS, Leidner recommended that local governments apply for federal grants, starting at a few hundred thousand dollars. In New York City, for example, \$100,000 enabled the Metropolitan Transit Authority to map the layouts of more than 468 stations in a matter of months. The blueprints for stations can be overlaid on existing street maps to give first responders exact locations of incidents.

Source: <http://fcw.com/article95791-08-24-06-Web>

29. *August 24, Associated Press* — **States agree to cooperate on evacuation plans for terror attacks.** Homeland security advisers from West Virginia and other states likely to receive refugees from a disaster in the Washington, DC–area have agreed to formally work together on regional evacuation plans, said state Military Affairs and Public Safety Secretary James Spears. The agreement came Thursday, August 24, during a two–day conference on evacuating potentially seven million people from the Washington–Baltimore area because of a terrorist attack. Ohio Public Safety Director Kenneth Morckel said the conference underscored the enormity of the potential problem for his state. He and Spears presume many refugees would pass through West Virginia on their way to metro areas in Ohio and Kentucky, which offer more services. The solution, Morckel and Spears said, is regional cooperation and planning. That's the reasoning behind the creation of a task force of homeland security directors that will operate under the umbrella of the National Governors Association, they said. The group will discuss "very specifically" all the ins and outs of passing refugees through rural West Virginia and housing, feeding and caring for them in metro areas such as Columbus, OH, Lexington, KY, or Richmond, VA, Spears said.

Source: [http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/W/WV\\_EVACUATION\\_CONFERENCE\\_WVOL-?SITE=WVHUN&SECTION=STATE&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2006-08-24-16-29-43](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/W/WV_EVACUATION_CONFERENCE_WVOL-?SITE=WVHUN&SECTION=STATE&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2006-08-24-16-29-43)

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

30. *August 24, Tech Web* — **Microsoft repatches IE's August patch.** Two days after Microsoft Corp. ripped eEye Digital Security for what it called "irresponsible disclosure" of a flawed Internet Explorer (IE) patch, Microsoft issued version 2.0 of the fix and told Windows 2000 and Windows XP SP1 users to apply it immediately. The updated MS06–042 security bulletin now includes a ninth patch, which applies only to IE 6.0 SP1 users who have installed the original cumulative fixes since August 8.

Updated MS06–042: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/ms06-042.mspx?pubDate=2006-08-08>

Source: <http://www.techweb.com/wire/security/192205071.jsessionid=YPL1KVCLHSUGQOQSNDLOSKHSCJUNN2JVN>

31. *August 21, Government Computer News* — **Sharing data is crucial to cyberdefense.** Each agency within the Department of Defense (DoD) has frontline responsibility for securing its own IT systems. However, without the ability to share information and coordinate responses, the services' capacity to respond to incidents is severely hampered. Some DoD resources, such as the Global Information Grid (GIG), stretch across all Defense agencies, requiring a departmentwide response mechanism. The Joint Task Force for Global Network Operations is the specific directorate within the Strategic Command that protects the GIG. But the directorate and the individual services also receive assistance from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and other federal agencies. "We have a very rich relationship with the [DHS] Computer Emergency Response Team (US–CERT)," said Rear Adm. Elizabeth Hight, principal director for operations at the Defense Information Services Agency and deputy director of JTF–GNO.

“We participate and communicate and collaborate with them every day. I find that their willingness to work with us on [what] they’re seeing beyond the DoD’s borders has been a wonderful interagency exchange. We have made a habit of sharing information.” Hight said that US–CERT shares information on topics such as new viruses, other malicious software and techniques being used by botnet masters.

Source: [http://www.gcn.com/print/25\\_25/41696-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/print/25_25/41696-1.html)

## Internet Alert Dashboard

<b>Current Port Attacks</b>	
<b>Top 10 Target Ports</b>	1026 (win-rpc), 139 (netbios-ssn), 445 (microsoft-ds), 80 (www), 32794 (---), 113 (auth), 4672 (eMule), 25 (smtp), 6346 (gnutella-svc), 135 (epmap)
Source: <a href="http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html">http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html</a> ; Internet Storm Center	
To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at <a href="mailto:soc@us-cert.gov">soc@us-cert.gov</a> or visit their Website: <a href="http://www.us-cert.gov">www.us-cert.gov</a> .	
Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <a href="https://www.it-isac.org/">https://www.it-isac.org/</a> .	

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector**

### **32. *August 25, Gov Exec* — Army Corps takes steps to fix shortcomings exposed by Katrina.**

The Army's Chief of Engineers, Lt. General Carl A. Strock, on Thursday, August 24, announced that the Corps would take a dozen specific actions to transform the way it sets priorities and does business. Among the most significant changes will be a more rigorous focus on risk analysis in both project design and construction, and a more comprehensive effort to communicate that risk to the public and other stakeholders. "Risk has always been an element of our planning, but it clearly needs increased emphasis in how we do our work," Strock said. "Today the major driving points for recommending projects are economic justification, engineering feasibility, and environmental acceptability." The 12–point plan reflects the fact that not all the problems exposed by Katrina were engineering mistakes. The incompleteness of the levee system, inconsistencies in levels of protection, and lack of redundancy all contributed. "While the Corps is not responsible for levees we did not build, or for lack of funding for recommendations we made that were not funded, we do have accountability for our own design shortcomings, and we should have done more to inspect and reassess the condition of the levees and to communicate with the people of New Orleans," Strock said.

Source: [http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=34880&dcn=to\\_daysnews](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34880&dcn=to_daysnews)

### **33. *August 25, American Society of Civil Engineers* — Report: Lessons from Hurricane Katrina.**

A year after Hurricane Katrina's devastating impact on New Orleans, the American Society of Civil Engineers' External Review Panel has issued a report entitled, What Must We Do Next? It is a “call for action,” outlining a set of essential recommendations for overcoming the deficiencies in the region's hurricane protection system and instituting real change in its governance, management, and engineering. Many of the lessons learned also have significant implications for communities throughout the nation. These recommendations were developed

as a result of the Hurricane Katrina External Review Panel's (ERP) in-depth review of the comprehensive work of the United States Army Corps of Engineers Interagency Performance Evaluation Taskforce. During the course of its work, the ERP developed a deep understanding of the underlying issues that led to this tragedy, and recognizing their obligation to share these findings so others may learn from this tragedy and prevent it from happening again, the Panel developed the essential list of calls to action.

Report: [http://www.asce.org/files/pdf/Ch9\\_WhatMustWeDoNext.pdf](http://www.asce.org/files/pdf/Ch9_WhatMustWeDoNext.pdf)

Source: [http://www.asce.org/pressroom/news/display\\_press.cfm?uid=280\\_9](http://www.asce.org/pressroom/news/display_press.cfm?uid=280_9)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **General Sector**

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

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<http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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